

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUNICH 01445 161703Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 TRSE-00 /058 W

-----170316Z 021722 /64

R 161610Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8482

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUNICH 1445

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: DISTRICT CONVENTIONS ILLUSTRATE PROBLEMS

PLAGUING THE SPD

REF: (A) BONN 7258; (B) MUNICH 1402 (NOTAL)

1. INTRO AND SUMMARY. IN SIMULTANEOUS CONVENTIONS MAY 14 AND 15, THE SPD'S FRANCONIAN AND SOUTHERN BAVARIAN DISTRICTS DISCUSSED PROBLEMS CURRENTLY FACING THE SPD AND EXHIBITED DIFFERENT STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH THEM. THE TWO DISTRICTS AGREED THAT SPD HAD LOST CONFIDENCE OF VOTERS TO EXTENT THAT PARTY'S FUTURE ELECTION PROSPECTS WERE QUITE DIM. BOTH SOUGHT TO RESTORE PARTY SOLIDARITY, BUT WHILE FRANCONIANS WERE PREPARED TO ISOLATE "STAMOKAP" ELEMENTS, SOUTHERN BAVARIANS SOUGHT TO PLAY DOWN INTRA-PARTY DIFFERENCES.

END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MUNICH 01445 161703Z

2. PROBLEMS FACING THE SPD. IN THEIR STATE-OF-THE-DISTRICT MESSAGES, THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SPD'S FRANCONIAN DISTRICT FRIEDRICH AND SOUTHERN BAVARIA DISTRICT BAYERL PRESENTED REMARKABLY SIMILAR INVENTORIES OF PROBLEMS FACING THE SPD. BOTH CLAIMED THAT THE PARTY HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED SUCH A SHARP LOSS OF CONFIDENCE AMONG VOTERS AS HAD OCCURRED IN RECENT MONTHS.

THEY ALSO AGREED THAT PARTY HAD NOT REPEAT NOT YET ARRESTED ITS DOWNWARD SLIDE. BOTH NOTED THAT PARTY HAD LOST MEMBERS IN PAST YEAR AND EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN OVER PARTY'S FAIOURE TO RECRUIT ITS SHARE OF YOUTHFUL VOTERS.

3. DIFFERING RECIPES. ALTHOUGH THEY AGREED ON PROBLEMS FACING PARTY AS WELL AS NEED FOR PARTY SOLIDARITY, FRIEDRICH AND BAYERL ADVOCATED QUITE DIFFERENT STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH THESE PROBLEMS. FRANCONIAN CHAIRMAN FRIEDRICH ADVOCATED ISOLATION WITHIN PARTY OF THOSE ELEMENTS, ESPECIALLY THE PRO-BENNETER LEFTISTS, WHO REJECT IDEALS OF SPD'S DEMOCRATIC TRADITION AS WELL AS PRINCIPLES OF GODESBERG PROGRAM. SOUTHERN BAVARIA CHAIRMAN BAYERL ISSUED EMOTIONAL CALL FOR SOLIDARITY BUT SOUGHT TO ACHIEVE IT BY PLAYING DOWN OR EVEN IGNORING FACTIONAL DIFFERENCES.

4. DEALING WITH BENNETER'S FOLLOWERS. GIVEN THEIR DIFFERING STRATEGIES, FRIEDRICH AND BAYERL PURSUED QUITE DIFFERENCT TACTICS IN HANDLING PRO-BENNETER ELEMENTS. BAYERL REJECTED THE BENNETER POSITION, WARNED HIS JUSOS NOT REPEAT NOT TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH IT, AND PREVENTED A DEBATE ON BENNETER'S SUSPENSION FROM REACHING THE CONVENTION FLOOR. FRIEDRICH OPTED FOR MEETING THE PRO-BENNETER ELEMENTS HEAD ON. SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE CONVENTION, HE ARRANGED FOR THE SUSPENSION OF FRANCONIAN JUSO CHAIRMAN RUDOLPH, WHO HAD OPENLY IDENTIFIED HIMSELF WITH BENNETER AND ACTED AS SPOKESMAN FOR HIS PRO-BENNETER JUSO DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. RUDOLPH'S ALLIES MADE UNSUCCESSFUL BID TO FORCE HIS ADMITTANCE TO FRANCONIAN CONVENTION AND TO TURN CONVENTION INTO TRIBUNAL FROM WHICH THEY COULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MUNICH 01445 161703Z

TRUMPET THE BENNETER LINE.
BETTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY UNITY, PARTY LINE, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, PARTY MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MUNICH01445
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770174-0251
Format: TEL
From: MUNICH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770553/aaaabtql.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 621c4693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BONN 7258, 77 MUNICH 1402
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2506032
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISTRICT CONVENTIONS ILLUSTRATE PROBLEMS PLAGUING THE SPD
TAGS: PINT, GE, SPD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/621c4693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009